

**Congressman Childers' Statement on TVA Rate Increase**

August 7, 2008

Washington, DC - Congressman Travis Childers (D-MS) released the following statement in response to Tennessee Valley Authority's (TVA) October rate hikes.

"TVA's announcement that it will likely raise rates 15 to 20 percent in October is yet another example of the damaging effect skyrocketing fuel prices have on our overall economy. American pocketbooks aren't just taking a hit at the pump, they're also getting squeezed at the grocery store and everywhere else, and now North Mississippians are facing soaring utility bills.

"We cannot sit back and let fuel costs continue to take an increasingly heavy toll on our economic wellbeing. That's why I proposed a six-point energy plan last month to provide immediate relief for Americans facing out-of-control gas prices and offer long-term solutions to our nation's energy crisis. There are several pieces of bipartisan legislation that would expand our energy supply, including measures to release 70 million barrels of oil from the U.S. Strategic Petroleum Reserve, lift the offshore drilling ban, and allow drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge in Alaska, and I am proud to be a cosponsor on all of these.

"North Mississippians desperately need relief, and I will continue to fight against high gas prices and work with members from both sides of the aisle towards a comprehensive solution to our energy crisis."

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